PRESTATYN
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. R. Rhydwen, D.S.C., M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

TOGETHER WITH THE

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector

Mr. I. WYNN JONES, M.S.I.A.

Cert. Meat and other Foods.

FOR THE YEAR 1951

Arthur Williams & Co., High Street, Prestatyn. Tel. 156.

HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1950

Coun. J. R. Gilbert (Chairman)

Coun. Mrs. Eleanor Evans J.P.	Coun. R. T. Jones
,, C. F. Lloyd-Ellis	,, E. O. Jones
,, Mrs. E. E. Jackson	,, J. O. Jones,
,, Mrs B. J. Shepherd	,, N. Stewart

Chairman of the Council : Coun. Owen Jones, J.P.

Vice-Chairman of the Council : Coun. F. A. Lloyd

Staff of the Public Health Department—

Medical Officer of Health :

DR R. RHYDWEN, D.S.C., M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector : Meat & Food Insp. :

I. WYNN JONES, M S,I.A.. Cert. Meat & Food Insp.

General Assistant :

J. E. PARRY.

Clerk Student :

R. D. JONES.

Meteorological Officer :

T. GRANT.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1951

To the Chairman and Members of the
Prestatyn Urban District Council.

I beg to submit my report for the year 1951 for your consideration.

The general health of the district has been good; Infectious disease cases were more numerous, there being 174 cases in 1951, as compared with 141 cases in 1950. The increase was entirely due to an increase in cases of measles and whooping cough.

Diphtheria immunisation figures showed a great increase in 1951, 106 children being immunised for the first time and 65 children receiving re-inforcing doses. In all 171 children received some form of immunisation as compared with 106 in 1950.

Immunisation was continued at the School Health Clinic and 126 children received their immunisation doses there.

No case of diphtheria occurred in the district during the year.

It is also gratifying to report that no cases of Food Poisoning occured during 1951.

I know that all of the Food handlers in the town are aware of the need for scrupulous cleanliness and attention to personal hygiene amongst food handlers. and I appeal to them not to relax their care now that we have for one year achieved our objective.

I would again stress the need for scrupluous cleanliness and attendance to personal hygiene amongst all food handlers. A serious outbreak of food poisoning could do untold harm to a holiday resort.

For the first time Prestatyn had a visit from the Mass Radiography unit of the Welsh Regional Board and 965 of the townspeople availed themselves of the facilities offered. This figure, 965, represents 11 % of the population and is a very satisfactory attendance figure when one considers that an influenza epidemic was widespread in the district at the time,

I would point out here that a clean bill in 1951 does not exclude the possibility of chest trouble for ever after. Indeed it is advisable to have annual checks and I hope, with some grounds for believing that it may come to pass, that the visit of the Mass Radiography unit will become an annual event.

Statistics

As was to be expected owing to the high percentage of elderly people living in the town, our death rate was higher than the average for the country, and our birth rate lower than the average for the country.

The Infant Mortality rate was 43.99 per 1,000 live births, as compared with 34.4 per 1,000 live births in 1950. The rate is still above that for England and Wales as a whole, which is 29.6 per 1,000 living births.

All four infant deaths occured in hospital while undergoing treatment, two being due to prematurity, one to influenza and one to congenital defect.

Elderly People and Elderly Sick People.

Difficulty is experienced in finding hospital accommodation for the elderly chronic sick. This is a

nation-wide problem, due mainly to the shortage of nursing staff, and I regret to state that I see no immediate prospect for improvement.

The opening of more Homes for Aged Persons by the Flintshire County Council will alleviate the position in regard to the accommodation of aged and infirm persons.

Housing

During the year, the two houses reported last year as being under construction were completed, thus making a total of 26 houses at Maes Hendre, Meliden. Due to delay in acquring additional land, it was late in the year before further contracts were entered for 52 houses to form the second development at Maes Hendre. Five Contractors were engaged and at the end of the year 26 houses had been started.

The total number of completed houses owned by the Council at the end of the year was as follows:—

Caradoc Terrace, Prestatyn	...	15
Dawson Park ,,	...	72
Bryn Rhosyn ,,	...	174
Ffordd Bryn Melyd and Isfryn Road, Meliden ...	...	44
Maes Hendre, Meliden	...	26
		331

206 of these houses have been built since the war.

I referred last year to negotiations which were in hand for the acquisition of land to form an extension to the estate at Maes Hendre. These were concluded and 9.20 acres of land were acquired.

The improvements to the 15 houses in Caradoc Terrace were carried out during the year. These houses were built in 1913 and have now been brought up to present day standards, each house now having a bath room, hot water system and store shed. In each case the kitchen was also improved.

Seven new houses were completed by private enterprise during the year.

The list of applicants for housing still remains heavy, however, it can be said that the majority of applicants living under very bad conditions have now been housed and the remainder are receiving due consideration.

Some of the hutments at the Hillside Camp, Prestatyn, are still occupied and the Council is pursuing the policy of re-housing these tenants as opportunity arises and demolishing the huts as they become vacant.

o o o

All our essential services have been carefully supervised as you will note from the report, and the standard of milk and ice cream production has been most satisfactory.

Appended are the Reports of the Sanitary Inspector, the Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act and the Climatology readings as taken by Mr Grant.

My Report would not be complete without an expression of thanks to the Health Committee for their keen interest, activity and co-operation and to the Sanitary Inspector and Staff of the Public Health Department for their keeness and unflagging energy in tackling the problems which arose during the year.

To the Clerk and all my colleagues on the Council staff I express my gratitude for their helpful co-operation.

I remain,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

R. RHYDWEN.

Water Supply

The water supply has been maintained at a high standard of purity. Three reports on chlorinated and filtered water were unsatisfactory, all others being Class I, highly satisfactory. One of the unsatisfactory samples was due to faulty technique in sampling and the other two were due to underdosing with Chlorine.

The number of samples submitted by the Water Dept. during the year was :

(a)	Raw Water.	1
(b)	Filtered Water	2
(c)	Filtered and Chlorinated Water	46.

New mains were laid at Caradoc Terrace, Prestatyn, Maes Hendre, Meliden, and Hiraddug Road, Dyserth, for Council housing developments. Practically all houses in the area are supplied from the mains.

Number of dwelling houses served by public mains direct to house	3098
Population of above dwelling houses	8641
Number of dwelling houses served by public mains by means of stand pipes	22
Population of above dwelling houses	79

Four houses occupied by fourteen persons are supplied by wells, springs, etc.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Sample of water received on 24th October, 1950, marked Routine, Main Supply at 36, Dawson Park.

In Parts per 100,000 of Water.

Total solid matter in solution ...	36.00
Nitrogen in Nitrates	0.02
Nitrites	Nil.
Chlorine in Chlorides	2.00
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 Hours at 80 deg. F. ...	0.032
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil.
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.003
Lead, Copper, Zinc	Nil.
Microscopical Examination of the sediment	Nil.
Temporary hardness in degrees Clark	13.6
Permanent Hardness in degrees Clark	2.8
pH Value	7.2

The above Chemical analysis is very satisfactory.
The water is moderately hard.

(Signed) HAROLD LOWE, M.Sc., F.R.I.C.,
Public Analyst.

Sewerage

The sewerage scheme for the area, excluding Meliden, consists of a gravity scheme on the higher levels to which sewage is raised by Ejectors from the low lying areas, and the whole of the sewage is discharged untreated into the sea. The system has worked satisfactorily during the year. There is also a pumping station serving Y Ffrith which has operated satisfactorily.

Meliden Sewerage is also partly on the gravity system and partly pumped. The sewage is purified at a disposal works and discharged into a watercourse. The system is satisfactory.

The surface water sewerage system is separate from the foul water system and is satisfactory except during abnormal rainfall, when a small amount of flooding occurs, largely due to the unsatisfactory state of land drainage south of the main railway line.

No major alteration or additions have been carried out during the year; necessary repairs and alterations, due to wear and tear have received attention.

Prestatyn Gutter

Following works in 1948 the condition of the gutter is improved and in spite of heavy rainfall there has been no serious flooding. Work remains to be done in regard to some tributaries to the gutter on the South side in order to prevent waterlogging of adjoining lands, which has proved a nuisance.

Food Supplies

Careful supervision has been maintained over the premises of retailers, especially those of Butchers, Bakeries

and Dairies. For number of inspections, see Sanitary Inspector's report. All meat sold in the area is killed and inspected at the Public Abattoir, Rhyl.

The need for the greatest care in the preparation and handling of cooked meats, pies and pastries cannot be too strongly stressed in view of unfortunate experiences in past years. Inspection of premises has revealed a high standard of cleanliness in most premises and the department's advice has been readily accepted when tendered.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks

Nil.

National Assistance Act, 1948

No formal action was taken under Section 47 of this Act during the year.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The collection of refuse can now be regarded as satisfactory,

A heavy strain is placed on the service during the summer months due to the influx of visitors, and the occupation of camps.

The need for additional land for refuse disposal which had been known for some years is now an urgent necessity. It is to be hoped that the negotiations now in progress will result in the acquisition of the necessary land.

Swimming Pools

There are two privately owned public pools. Samples of water are taken regularly during the season and are mainly satisfactory.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

These remain unchanged.

Pathological and bacteriological examinations of discharges, throat swabs, etc., are done at the Ministry of Health Laboratory, Conway. During 1951 they numbered 29. Samples of water were despatched for bacteriological examination. Venereal swabs and blood requiring examination for venereal diseases are sent by the patients' doctors to the laboratory of the Chester Royal Infirmary.

Ambulance Service

Infectious cases are removed to hospital by Ambulance which is afterwards disinfected and all cases of illness or accident are removed by the County Ambulance Service, the County having acquired the duty of the provision of an Ambulance Service since July, 1948. The County Council also supervises the Sitting Case Car Service.

Home Nursing

This is now a County Council Service, the Queen's Nurses being under the direction of the County Health Services.

There is one Home Help available in this district. Further particulars can be obtained from the County Health Office, Mold.

Clinics

Ante-Natal and Child Welfare Clinics are under the control of the County Medical Officer of Health. Infant Welfare Centre held at the Prestatyn School Clinic, Kings Avenue, every Friday 1-30 to 4-30 p.m. A Medical Officer attends every first and third Friday.

Orthopaedic Clinic at the Old Emmanuel School, Rhyl every first and third Friday mornings 10-30 to 12-30 Orthopaedic Nurse attends every session. Surgeon attends every two months.

Ante-Natal Clinic at Prestatyn School Clinic, Kings Avenue, first and third Friday, 9-30 a.m.

The Tuberculosis Clinic, in charge of the Medical Officers of the Welsh Regional Board is held at 27 Edward Henry Street. Rhyl, every Friday at 10 a m.

Free Hospital, Sanatorium, Clinical and Domiciliary treatment is available to all persons suffering from tuberculosis by arrangements made with the Welsh Regional Board.

Venereal Disease

Treated at the Chester Royal Infirmary and St. Asaph General Hospital Out Patients Departments. All forms of venereal disease are examined and treated under conditions of strict secrecy. Cost of travelling to the Infimary is paid, if patients cannot afford to do so The tracing of contacts and the follow up of defaulters

is undertaken by the County Medical Officer's Department. The Clinic at St. Asaph General Hospital is held on Tuesdays, from 5.15 p.m. to 7.15 p.m.

Hospitals

There are none in the Urban Area

Infectious cases are treated at the Hawarden or Colwyn Bay Isolation Hospitals.

Notification of Births, Maternity & Child Welfare

This service is entirely under the control of the Flintshire County Council and their health visitors.

Maternity Facilities

There are two private Maternity Homes in the area, and one, Chatsworth House, under the control of the Clwyd and Deeside Hospital Board,

There are four registered midwives practising in the area.

Opthalmia Neonatorum

No cases have been reported during the year.

Scabies

No cases have been notified during the year.

Tuberculosis

For number of new cases, etc.. see Table II.

No action required to be taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1926 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade) or under Section 172 of the

Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis)

The aftercare of persons suffering from Tuberculosis is dealt with by a special Committee, who meet quarterly to consider the needs, financial or otherwise of each individual case.

All patients are visited in their homes by specially appointed nurses under direction of the County Medical Officer and Tuberculosis Physician.

All dwellings are disinfected as and when required. A register is kept of all cases in the area.

Zymotic Diseases

The number notified during the year was 174 (see Table I). Of these 4 received treatment at Isolation Hospitals. Care is taken to see that all necessary disinfection of premises and clothing is carried out.

Immunisation

The above service was inaugurated in June, 1940. During the current year 171 children were treated. 75 of whom were under 5 years of age, and 31 between 5 and 14. In addition 65 children received reinforcing doses.

Since 1940, 1997 children have been immunised.

Immunisation can be done by the Child's own doctor, or at The Welfare Clinic, Victoria Avenue every fourth Wednesday in each month, 2 to 3 30 p.m.

Vaccination

38 children under the age of 5, 3 children between the ages of 5 and 14 years, and 5 persons over the age of 15 years received their primary vaccination during the year, 8 children and 41 adults were revaccinated during the year.

Rag Flock Act, 1911—1928
Rag Flock and Other Filling Material Act 1951

Premises on Register—Nil.
No action necessary.

Public Places of Entertainment

As required by Ministry of Health Circular 120/1920, all places of entertainment requiring Singing, Music and Dancing licences have been inspected for fire fighting apparatus, exits, general cleanliness, conveniences, etc., and except for minor defects, found to be satisfactory.

Smoke Abatement

There has been no cause for complaint during the year. The local Steam Laundry is the only industry in the area, but by co-operation with the owners the smoke nuisance is reduced to a minimum.

Schools

Are under the control of the County Council Authority. The Heads of Schools are immediately notified of any cases of infectious diseases occuring amongst the scholars or in their homes.

Lodging Houses

There are no Common Lodging Houses withinthe district.

GENERAL STATISTICS & SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Social Conditions

The district is purely urban, and as a seaside resort its chief interest is the catering for and entertainment of visitors. There is a large amount of residential whioh property would have greatly increased but for

building restrictions during the war. The population largely consists of retired people.

Two Limestone Quarries are operating in the area. Unemployment is practically nil.

Area (in acres)	3,655
Population (Census 1910)	4,083
,, ,, 1931	4,511
Estimated population Mid 1951...	8,809
Estimated number of inhabited houses 1921 ...	770
,, ,, ,, ,, 1931 ...	1,579
,, ,, ,, ,, 1933 ...	1,590
Rateable value	£82,188
Sum represented by a 1d. rate	£325

VITAL STATISTICS

Birth Rate

The number of births registered was 91.

		M	F	Total
Births	Legitimate	49	40	91
	Illegitimate	1	1	

giving a rate per 1,000 population of 10.44, compared with the rate for England & Wales which is 15.8.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age were 4, giving a rate of 43.99 per 1,000 of the registered live births.

For England and Wales the figure was 29.2.

Still Births

Total 2 Males, Females 1, giving a rate per 1000 civilian population of 0.23, as compared with 0.36 for for England and Wales

Death Rate

The total number of deaths of residents belonging to the area was 173. The number of deaths of residents and non-residents registered by the local Registrar was 117. To this there has to be added 60 deaths of residents who died outside the area and 4 deaths subtracted, being those of non-residents who died within the area, giving a corrected number of 173, which on the civilian population of 8720 gives a crude death rate per 1,000 population of 19.84. Our rate corrected for comparative purposes is 12.90. For England & Wales the rate is 12.5.

The outstanding feature is that 64 deaths were those of people over 70 and under 80 years of age, 43 over 80 and under 90 and 7 over 90.

Heart diseases accounted for 57, Intracranial vascular diseases for 26, Cancer for 27, all essentially diseases of elderly people. Puerperal causes, nil, Measles nil. Deaths from all forms of tuberculosis, 5.

For causes of death see Table iii.

Cemetery

There have been 67 interments in Coed Bell Cemetery during 1951 as compared with 80 in 1950.

Protestants—58
Catholics—9
Common Grave—0

I am,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) R. RHYDWEN,
Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1951.

Disease.	At all Ages	Under 1 year	1—2	3—4	5—9	10—14	15—44	45—64	Over 65	Cases admitted to Hospital
Scarlet Fever	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria (Obs.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	....	...	...
Whooping Cough	51	5	7	15	23	1	...	...	...	...
Measles	109	...	16	17	39	1	5	1	...	...
Lobar Pneumonia	6	...	...	2	2	2	...	...	...	...
Meningococcal Infection	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	2
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...		1
Total	174	5	23	65	69	5	6	1	0	4

TABLE II.

TUBERCULOSIS—New Cases and Mortality during 1951.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	...
1...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15...	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...
20...	1	...	...	..	...	...	...	...
25...	3	..	...	...	1	...	...	...
35...	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
45...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
65 & upw'd	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
	12	5	...	...	4	1	...	...

CASES ON REGISTER

	Males		Females		
	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Total
Dec. 31st, 1950 ...	75 ...	10 ...	31 ...	3 ...	119
Dec. 31st, 1951 ...	58 ...	6 ...	34 ...	2 ...	100

TABLE III.—Causes of Deaths
during the year 1951

	Males	Females	Total
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary) ...	3	1	4
Tuberculosis (other)	1	0	1
Syphilis	0	1	1
Influenza	2	4	6
Other Infective	1	2	3
Cancer :			
Lung & Bronchus	5	0	5
Stomach	1	3	4
Breast	0	2	2
Other Sites	6	10	16
Diabetes	0	0	0
Intra.-cran: Vasc: Lesions ...	4	22	26
Heart diseases	25	26	51
Other Circulatory Diseases ...	1	3	4
Bronchitis	7	6	13
Pneumonia	2	3	5
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	1	1	2
Ulcer of Stomach	1	0	1
Diarrhœa	0	2	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	1	0	1
Other Digestive Diseases ...	0	0	0
Nephritis	1	0	1
Premature Birth	0	0	0
Congenital Malformation, etc. ...	0	1	1
Suicide	0	1	1
All other accidents	0	0	0
Other causes	3	20	23
Road Traffic Accident	0	0	0
TOTAL ...	65	108	173

TABLE IV.—Infant Mortality,

During the Year 1951

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under One Year of Age.

Cause of Death	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	1-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 Year
All Causes { Certified									
All Causes { Uncertified									
Small Pox									
Chicken Pox									
Measles									
Scarlet Fever									
Whooping Cough									
Diphtheria and Croup ..									
Erysipelas									
Tuberculosis Meningitis ..									
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...									
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...									
Meningitis not Tuberculosis ...									
Convulsions									
Laryngitis									
Bronchitis									
Pneumonia (all forms) ...							1		1
Diarrhœa									
Enteritis									
Gastritis									
Syphillis									
Rickets									
Suffocation, overlying ...									
Injury at Birth									
Atelectasis									
Congenital Malformations ...					1				1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...									
Premature Birth	2								2
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus									
Other causes									
Total	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	4

Total Births in the Year:—91. Males. 50; Females. 41.

Legitimate Males 49, Legitimate Females 40

Illegitimate Males 1. Illegitimate Females 1.

ADULTERATION, ETC.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

Your Inspector under this Act has reported as follows :—

Herewith are the particulars of the samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act 1938, in the Prestatyn Urban District Council area, during the year ending December 31st, 1951 :—

Description of Article	Number of Samples taken	Genuine	Not Genuine or below standard
Milk	20	14	6
Ice Cream	4	2	2
Sausages	5	5	
Minced Meat	1	1	
Brawn	1	1	
Pressed Meat	2	2	
Cakes	2	2	
Fishcakes	1	1	
Tea	1	1	
Beer	2	2	
Butter	1	1	
Cooking Fat	2	2	
Salad Cream	1	1	
Meat Pies	1	1	
Sugar Fruits	1	1	
Semolina	1	1	
Flour	1	1	
Medicinal Parafin	1	1	
Sal Volatile	1	1	
Belsom of Glycerine, etc.	1	1	
Total	50	42	8

Legal proceedings were instituted in respect of 3 milk samples found adulterated with water and a total of £26 10/- was collected in fines and costs. The other milk samples reported as not being genuine were low in milk solids and the attention of the producers was drawn to the matter.

The two ice cream samples reported as not being genuine were low in solids and sugar content. A warning letter was sent to the manufacturers,

(Signed) E. LEWIS.

County Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1951

General Summary of Visits, Etc.

General Sanitation

Water Supply	70
Drainage	463
Stables, Piggeries, etc.	51
Fried Fish Shops	40
Camps, etc.	300
Factories and Workshops	124
Bakehouses	107
Public Conveniences	147
Rats and Mice	219
Schools	5
Watercourses	129
Special Visits re Housing	601
Visits under Section 47, Nat. Ast. Act	29
Premises re insect pests	70
Miscellaneous Visits and Reinspertions	250
Complaints received and investigated	351
Number of Nuisances abated	661
Number of Preliminary notices served for nuisances	371
Formal notices for nuisances	1

Infectious Disease

Number of cases occuring	178
Enquiries	101
Number removed to Hospital	5
Disinfection	137

Meat & Food Inspection

Butchers Shops	79
Fishmongers	57
Grocers	118
Ice Cream Premises	137
Food Preparing Premises	95

Sanitary Defects etc.

Number of stopped drains	289
Number of defective drains	39
Choked or insanitary ditches	9

Number of defective septic tanks	9
Defective W.C. cisterns and fittings	9
Defective E.C. and W.C.	3
Dirty condition of houses, outhouses and yards	3
Animals etc., kept under insanitary conditions	6
Want of Lime Washing	10
Defective inspection chambers	2
Defective sink and wastepipes	11
Defective Roofs	10
Defective Floors	7
Defective Pavings	3
Defective eaves and downspouts...	12
Defective doors	7
Defective windows	7
Defective sinks and washbasins	3
Insufficient W.C. accommodation	1
Accummulaion of Refuse	27
Dilapidated dust bins	10
Defective wall and ceiling plaster	6
Dampness	6
Defective Grates	3
Infestations by insect pests	54
Defective Chimneys	2
Rat & Mice infestations	118
Miscellaneous	15

Nuisances from premises other than dwellings

Halls	15
Farms & Dairies	11
Camps & Caravans	14
Cafes	13
Offices	10
Shops	34
Schools	5
Bakeries	7
Hotels	13
Warehouses	7
Garages	5
Laundry	5
Fried Fish Shops	8
Miscellaneous	21

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Number of visits re Collection and Salvage... ...	162
Number of visits re Disposal	164

The refuse is disposed of by Controlled Tipping on a site off Fforddisa. Collection is by one Karrier C.K.3 (10 cu. yd) and one Karrier Bantam (7 cu. yd.). Each lorry draws a trailer for salvage collection. The Bantam is due for replacement by a 10 cu. yd. vehicle.

The maintainence of a weekly collection with existing lorries and staff is becoming increasingly difficult owing to the number of new houses being built in the area, and also to the strain put on the service during the summer season by the occupation of the camps and the influx of visitors into the town.

Consideration will have to be given in the near future to splitting the town into three collection districts instead of two as at present.

Householders can help to keep the service regular by disposing of garden refuse themselves, and by keeping waste paper and rags out of the bin for salvage.

Disposal of refuse on the Fforddisa site presents a greater problem each year. It is hoped that negotiations for acquisition of more land will be succesful next year so that we can tip to some purpose and have the existing mound levelled.

A word of praise and thanks must go to the refuse collectors for their loyalty and cheerfulness in carrying out—often under difficulties—a very dull and dirty job in all weather.

Sick leave taken by the refuse staff during the year totalled 83 days as compared with 131 days last year.

1711 loads weighing 3108 tons were collected and disposed of, also, 26 nightsoil pails are serviced each week.

No charge is made for disposal of refuse by private persons at the refuse tip.

Total tonnage refuse collected	3108
Total tonnage refuse disposed of	4211
Area of district, in acres	3655
Population	8809
Number of premises...	3536
Rateable value	£82188
Product of 1d. in £	£325
General Rate in £	19s. 3d.

Salvage

	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs		£	s.	d.
Mixed Paper ...	116	7	2	16	...	1541	6	9
Mags. and Books ...	12	18	0	2	...	262	11	4
White Paper ...	10	2	2	16	...	232	1	11
Rags	4	17	2	7	...	122	11	5
Scrap Iron ...	1	10	0	0	...	2	5	0
Mixed Metal ...		5	1	11	...	3	3	10
Miscellaneous ...					...		5	0
Jars (330 dozen)					...	7	6	0
	156	14	0	24		£2171	10	3
Salvage 1950 ...	126	11	3	15	...	£754	4	4

Much interest was created by the National Waste Paper Contest and collections soon started mounting. The foregoing figures speak for themselves and the Department was very proud of its contribution to the rate fund and of winning a prize of £50 in the Contest. An electrically powered paper baler is on order and this will cut baling costs,

Water Sampling

	Bacteriological	Chemical
Town Main supply....	36	 0
Holywell R.D.C. supply ...	10 ...	... 0
Private Supply, Wells, etc. ...	0 ...	... 0
Streams	2 ...	... 0
Swimming Pools	26 ...	... 0
Total samples taken... ...	71 ...	0

In general the Bacteriological reports on the main supplies have been Class 1. Highly satisfactory.

The samples from Streams were a check on possible fouling by septic tank effluents, the results were satisfactory for stream water.

Regular samples are taken from the two Swimming Pools during the season and the results were generally satisfactory.

Milk Supplies

Number of Samples taken of each grade

Pasteurised	11
Tuberculin Tested	49
Accredited	28
Ungraded	34
Total	122

Results of Examinations

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Tuberculin Tested ...	47 ...	... 2
Accredited	27 ...	... 1
Pasteurised	11 ...	... 0
Ungraded	34 ...	... 0

Number of farms producing milk within the district ...	10
Tuberculin tested	7
Accredited	1
Ungraded	2

The milk producers and retailers are to be congratulated on these results The samples are taken monthly, so the results show a continued attention to clean milk production methods throughout the year.

Milk Licenses

Dealers Licenses—	Tuberculin tested	2
	Pasteurised	10
	Sterilized	10
Supplementary Licenses—	Tuberculin tested ...	5
	Pasteurised	4
	Sterilized	4
Milk Distributors on Register....	... ...	8
Visits to Dairies and Milk shops	....	122

Biological Testing

Five Samples of milk were submitted for Biological examination for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli during February. The results proved to be negative in each case.

Fried Fish Shops

Number of Fried Fish shops in District 6

These shops are well conducted.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Section 14

Premises registered for the manufacture and sale of Ice Cream	5
Premises for sale only	35
Premises for manufacture of sausages, cocked meat etc.	14

Ice Cream

Forty-nine samples of this commodity were taken during the season and the results are as follows :—

Grade I	26
Grade II	13
Grade III	6
Grade IV	4

Those in Grade I and II can be regarded as satisfactory.

These results are satisfactory and they go to show the keen interest taken by the manufacturers and vendors to serve the public with a clean and wholesome article of food.

Meat & other Food Inspection

All the town's Meat supply is slaughtered and inspected at the Rhyl Municipal Abattoir.

Other foods, canned goods etc., are inspected as necessary and the following is a list of unsound food condemned in shops.

Fats	11lbs.
Fish	323lbs.
Meat	17771bs.
Milk and Milk Products	871bs.
Soups	391bs.
Vegetables, Fruit	6851bs,
Miscellaneous	131bs.

Bakehouses and other food premises are inspected periodically and any nuisances are quickly remedied. on the occupiers notice being drawn to them

Byelaws under Section 15 of Food & Drugs Act 1938

No formal action was taken under the Byelaws during the year :

Private & Adoptive Acts, in force

Prestatyn Urban District Act 1909.
Prestatyn Water Act 1901.
Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act 1890.
Public Health Acts (Ammendment) Act 1890 (Whole Act)
Public Libraries Acts 1892 and 1893.
Private Street Works Act 1892
Public Health Act 1925 (Whole Act)

Public Health Acts (Ammendment) Act 1907 (Except Parts V, VII and IX).

Byelaws

Sanitary and Cleanly Conditions in Handling Food 1950.

Building Byelaws 1939.

Tents, Vans, Sheds, and Similar Structures used for human habitation 1931.

Nuisances 1899.

Slaughterhouses 1899.

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	46	124		
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities				
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)				
TOTAL	46	124	Nil	Nil

2—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions where instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	9	9		
Overcrowding				
Unreasonable temperature ...				
Inadequate ventilation ...				
Ineffective drainage of floors...				
Sanitary Conveniences				
(a) insufficient				
(b) unsuitable or defective ...	30	30		
(c) not separate for sexes ...				
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)				
TOTAL	39	39	Nil	Nil

Rodent Infestation

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

The duties of the Rodent Officer are carried out by the General Assistant in the Health Department.

The sewers are testbaited during the year and their population is very small. 125 manholes were tested, 15 of which were found to be infested. These were in two small areas and were treated in a vertical block control.

Small infestations, chiefly backyard poultry keepers, are dealt with as they arise.

The refuse tip and sewage works are treated regularly and there is no "resident" rat population, but we usually have an invasion at harvest time.

The residents of Prestatyn are extremely good at carrying out the Ministry exhortation of "Report that Rat", and the Department endeavours to take prompt action on receipt of such reports.

The disinfestation service is free to householders and a small charge is made for work done on business premises.

Particular attention is paid to agricultural land, especially at harvest time when nests, etc. are disturbed.

Camps

There are five licensed camping sites in the district.

Bastion Road Camp	30 acres	354 plots
Pen-y-Ffrith Camp	2½ acres	50 plots
White House Camp	¼ acres	4 plots
Tan-y-Don Camp	3 acres	60 plots
Prestatyn Holiday Camp	7 acres	110 plots

Tan-y-Don is a Caravan Club Site.

The Prestatyn Holiday Camp have not, up to the time of going to print, developed the Eastern end of the camp on the lines proposed in the plan submitted.

It is to be noted with satisfaction that the new owner of Pen-y-Ffrith Camp has cleared away the unsightly converted bus bodies and now accepts only purpose-made trailer caravans. This has improved the site which is situated on the main road. He is to be complimented also on other sundry improvements to the site.

Each Camp has sufficient sanitary and ablution blocks connected to the main sewer. Water supply is from the town main and refuse is collected weekly. Waste food is collected by a pig keeper from each site.

The sites are very well conducted and the owners (three of which are resident on the sites) co-operate fully with this Department in keeping the sites clean and tidy. Bastion Road Camp has a Camping Association with a form of "self government" of the site.

The district is very popular with organisations such as Boy Scouts, Boys Brigade, etc., and individual Campers. During the month of August several fields are occupied by these camps. Inspections are made and I find that, almost without exception, they are maintained in good condition.

Talacre Warren

There are 78 hutments within the district, 25% of which are permanently occupied. The remainder are occupied during the summer months only.

This district is not sewered and nightsoil is disposed of by chemical closets and sullage water to soakaway pits. Owing to the sandy nature of the subsoil there is no nuisance in this respect.

The water supply is part of the Holywell R.D.C. supply and during the peak periods of the summer months the supply is not always adequate.

The disposal of refuse on this site leaves much to be desired. The present method is by accumulation on communal bin sites. Agreement has been reached with the Trustees for the provision of a bin per plot as soon as galvanised bins become available once more and collection will be on the same basis as the rest of the town.

Public Conveniences

The town has seven public conveniences and these are maintained by this Department. They are situated at the Parking Ground, near the Palladium Cinema, Coronation Gardens, two at the Central Beach, Ffrith Beach, near the Golf House, and at the Hillside Gardens. It is hoped that during next year a new one will be built at Meliden, and that in the not too distant future a site for one will be found in Pendre Square.

I regret having to reiterate that while every effort is made to keep these conveniences clean they are often sadly misused by the public, and much wanton damage is done. Short of having a caretaker in attendance all day, one hundred per cent cleanliness cannot be maintained. Unfortunately each unit is so small that this is obviously impracticable.

Watercourses

Maesyffynnon and "Jubilee" ditches have been maintained in a clear condition and no serious flooding of adjoining land occured during the year. The "fall" in the Maesyffynnon ditch is so slight that silting occurs near the railway, and in the culvert beneath the railway. By constant supervision and co-operation with the Railway Authority we have been able to keep the ditch clear of obstruction.

A quantity of sewage is still finding its way into Maesyffynnon via the surface water sewer. Arrangements are being made for the re-sewering of the offending block of buildings.

Licensed Premises

All premises requiring a Magistrates licence, such as Clubs, Licensed Houses, Ballrooms, Cinemas, etc , are inspected during the year, and a report was presented to the Licensing Justices at the Brewster Sessions,

I am pleased to say that I did not have to report adversely on any of these premises.

Mortuary

During the early part of the year alterations were carried out to bring this building up to modern standards and requirements.

The mortuary was in use on 13 occasions and 12 postmortem examinations were carried out there.

New Legislation

The following Acts of Parliament were made during the year affecting the Public Health Dept.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.
Slaughter of Animals Act, 1951.
Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.
Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act, 1951.

HOUSING

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 87

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 111

(2) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 0

(3) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 72

2 Remedy of defects during the year without Service of formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 68

3 Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 0

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners 0

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 1

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners 1

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0

(C) Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 0

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 0

(D) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing orders were made 0

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit 0

4. Housing Act, 1936 (*Overcrowding*)

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 2

(2) Number of families dwelling therein ... 3

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ... 25

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 1

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 2

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... 11

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... ... nil

(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report ... nil

Houses owned by the Local Authority

The following is a list of properties owned by the Council.

Caradoc Terrace	...	15	houses
Dawson Park	...	72	,,
Bryn Melyd Road	...	22	,,
Isfryn Road	...	22	,,
Bryn Rhosyn	...	174	,,
Maes Hendre	...	26	,,
		331	

In conclusion may I express my appreciation for the help and many kindnesses shown by the Chairman and members of the Health Committee Dr. R Rhydwen, Medical Officer of Health, Mr. J. Lloyd Hughes, Clerk to the Council, the indoor andontdoor staff.

I. WYNN JONES,

Sanitary Inspector.

CLIMATOLOGY OF PRESTATYN

Temperature

Highest Temperature	76° on 30th July
Lowest Temperature ...	26° on 4th March and 13th December
Number of days below freezing point ...	2 days

Sunshine

Total for the year	1408.9 hours
Highest Monthly Total	(June) 227.3 hours
Lowest Monthly Total	(January) 46.1 hours

Rainfall

Total for the year	31.28 inches
Above normal	2.88 inches
Wettest Month	(November) 5.375 inches
Driest Month	(June) 0.81 inches

Visibility

Fog occurred on 1 day.

Wind

Gales of over 48 m.p.h. ... .. — ...	Nil